

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/758,003

Applicant(s)

HASHIMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Emerson C. Puente

2113

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/16/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 1/16/04, 7/11/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Examiner's Statement of Reason for Allowance*

Claims 1-20 are allowable over the prior art of records.

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Claims 1 and 13 are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior arts.

The reason for allowance for claim 1 is the inclusion of under-monitoring processing means that is an under-monitoring processing program stored in said non-volatile program memory in addition to the control program for input/output control, and includes simulation-operation-execution processing means that is executed based on the question information having been transmitted by said inquiry packet transmission means, response packet transmission means for transmitting an execution result of said simulation-operation-execution processing means as an answer information to said monitoring control circuit section, and receiving interval error processing means that is reverse monitoring means for restarting, or alarming and stopping said monitoring control circuit section when a receiving interval of said inquiry packet is abnormal, and wherein, an under-test target program that is contained in said control program and a simulation-operation-execution processing program serving as simulation-operation-execution processing means and contained in said under-monitoring processing program include at

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least some common programs in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The reason for allowance for claim 13 is the inclusion of under-monitoring processing means that is an under-monitoring processing program stored in said non-volatile program memory and includes simulation-operation-execution processing means that is executed based on the question information having been transmitted by said inquiry packet transmission means, response packet transmission means for transmitting an execution result of said simulation-operation-execution processing means as an answer information to said monitoring control circuit section, receiving interval error processing means that is reverse monitoring means for restarting, or alarming and stopping said monitoring control circuit section when a receiving interval of said inquiry packet is abnormal and a watchdog timer that generates a reset pulse signal when a pulse width of a watchdog signal, being a pulse train that said microprocessor generates, exceeds a predetermined value to restart, or alarm and stop said microprocessor and said monitoring control circuit section in conjunction with the rest of the limitation set forth in the claim.

The remaining claims, not specifically mentioned, are allowed because they are dependent upon one of the claim mentioned above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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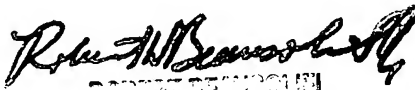
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emerson C. Puente whose telephone number is (571) 272-3652. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert W. Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ecp

  
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